



Salt Lake City - On April 19 and 20, practitioners of health care, heads of minority run non-profits who administer a variety of human services programs, and community leaders from the diverse communities of Utah came together for the first Multicultural track of the 2010 Generations Conference at the Salt Palace. The Generations conference is specifically designed for professionals in counseling, education, health education medicine, long term care, psychiatry, social work, mental health, pastoral care and other people-based services.

Over 100 participants joined the Multicultural track. The track was made possible from a grant from the U.S. Administration on Aging, and in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association of Utah, the Department of Human Service's, Division of Adult Aging Services with assistance from the Executive Director's Office of DHS. In addition to the Multicultural track, there was a Resource Village with information booths including approximately 25 non-profits, for profit, and other public agencies.

The conference opened with a presentation from Pamela Parlich, Ph.D, Senior Research Economist at the University of Utah, who presented on Utah's Demographic Transformation: A View Of The Future.

2010 Generations Conference: Multi-Cultural Track

Written by Manuel Romero, Executive Director's Office
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Highlights of the conference include an American-Indian hoop dance by Charles Denny (see video below), a performance West High School's Mariachi Juvenil de Utah (see video below), a panel discussion made up of six speakers who spoke on meeting the needs and preferences of our increasingly diverse generations. The track wrapped up with a presentation from Claudia D'Allegri, Vice-President of Sea Mar Health Clinics in Seattle. Claudia presented on the tremendous growth Sea Mar has experienced of the last 20 year to meet the growing demands of Washington's diverse population. Sea Mar currently operates 32 community health centers in Washington and a 100 bed multi-cultural nursing home in the Seattle area.

The Multicultural track accomplished the following objectives:

- The Generations Conference serves an expanding Utah and regional audience of practitioners in health care; increasingly important multicultural issues for Utah are now embedded permanently within this annual conference which had over 700 professional participants
- The Utah Division of Aging and Adult Services and the Alzheimer's Association Utah Chapter influenced more than 20 elder care providers to make commitments to adopt cultural competency in their organizations
- These organizations will collaborate with DAAS and AAUC throughout the balance of 2010 and share results of their commitment to change
- Debra Daniels, PhD, the Multicultural Trainer for the Track, will participate with these organizations in follow up to her presentations and works sheets presented at the Conference
- DAAS and AAUC will have submitted on May 10, 2010, new grant proposals to the U.S. Administration on Aging, which funded the Multicultural Track, for additional funding to expand cultural competency in Utah statewide

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